

# the CARRIER

W6CX

## the MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### **ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB**

Volume XLI - Issue 04 - April 1994

Editor - Greydon H. Hicks, KC6SLE

Distribution: Jay Caldis, KT6Y, Walt Ebbett, KB6QIB,  
and George Jones, KI6YK

The opinions expressed in the Carrier are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either the Board of Directors or membership of MDARC unless the author is a member of the MDARC Board of Directors and is speaking in an official capacity.

### **PICNIC PLANS FORMING**

Be sure to read the interview on page 03 for information about our July picnic. This is a really great picnic and you will want to mar your calendar now!

### **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 21, 1994 MDARC DIRECTORS' MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by President Dick, AA6DL, at his home at 7:30 PM. Picnic Chairman George, WB6OFH reported on plans for the July 17 picnic to be held at Lafayette Reservoir.

Treasurer Stan, WU6P reported that there were 83 buyers and 34 sellers at the auction. Gross receipts were \$6000.50; the profit to the club is expected to be over \$900.00. He reported that the bank account, as of March 21, 1994 was \$14,412.95 in money market accounts and \$6,911.51 in our checking account. He advised that he would be issuing checks to sellers within ten days and that would change our financial picture.

Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ reported that he had prepared the letter to the CCRA Local Area Net program manager and that President Dick, AA6DL had signed and sent it to Steve

Overacker. Dick told the group that no reply had been received as of the Director's meeting.

The club membership stands at 512 members.

The next meeting will be on April 18, 1994 at 7:30 PM at Richard's house, WA5HQJ. As is always the case, members of the MDARC are welcome to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee WA5HQJ  
Secretary, MDARC

**WARNING!** Word on the radio is that our fearless leader (not Billiary, but Dick Schulze) is once again peddling PACIFICON watches! His sales techniques are quite impressive. He starts off with a real soft sell. If that doesn't work he moves into the guilt method of sales about all the starving HAMS in the world...Of course his ultimate technique is high pressured sales and how if you don't buy he'll make sure you get "volunteered" for every club activity for the next year. Now don't get me wrong, its a nice watch with the great looking '94 PACIFICON logo and for a most reasonable price, but do yourself a favor; just give him the money up front and save the hassle. And watch the old "be the first to own a PACIFICON '94 watch" routine. I already fell for that one! - Ed.



## **ROCKY RIDGE REPEATER GROUP**

### **Regular Meeting**

**March 16, 1994**

The regular meeting of the RRRG was held at the Concord Convalescent Center in Concord. Called to order at 7:55 PM by Chairman Dwane McGlothin, N6SPX. Dwane mentioned that PACIFICON '94 was up coming in October. He asked persons interested in helping at the event to contact Dick Brown, KT6X.

Joe Gregory, WA6DQN, asked for volunteers to man future trail rides. Mentioned were Sunol on April 9. It's a one day event with some 4 wheel drive vehicles needed. On April 30, there is a 2 day Diablo ride with 8 volunteers needed per day.

The approval of the January 19 RRRG meeting minutes were postponed until the May meeting.

Treas. Norma Davis, N6EJZ, reported a bank balance of \$ 8896.06. There are outstanding commitments. Dwane estimated the amount after these commitments is approximately \$7000.00.

At 8:02 PM visitors and prospective new members to the club were introduced.

Under new business, Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ, talked about the club's doppler project and hoped to have some of the hardware available to view by the next meeting. He also spoke on the next RACES exercise.

Tech. chairman Mike Burke, KB6RMT, confirmed the 220 machine does appear to have a problem in the morning hours. He thanked Jerry Kornball, AA4JK, for the donation of 440 parts that have kept that repeater operating. Also thanked was Curtus Wheeler, KD6ELA, for the donation of the MICOR repeater that will replace the current unit in the future. Assist. tech. Chairman Keith Lattin, N6PMF, spoke on tower and container placement on Diablo for the Southern California ATV link. He hopes to have this link operating by PACIFICON '94. He also mentioned that the club was still looking for a trailer for the ATV equipment for portable use such as PACIFICON.

Lauren Styles, WA6CIE, spoke on field day events. He would like to see as much covered as possible, including OSCAR. Field day is the fourth weekend in June. He mentioned that the south gate entrance to the park will be closed from mid April through June for road resurfacing.

Dick Schulze, AA6DL, spoke on PACIFICON tickets and the availability of patches.

John Stuart, KM6QX, presented information on future MDARC meetings. March is the auction. April is a talk from a person who runs a 10,000 watt ship to shore CW facility. Forming is an April 23 field trip to tour this facility. John also spoke on APRS.

Dennis Fuller, KC6QHH, gave details for the MDARC spring auction.

Concerning the RRRG logo that was voted on at the May 19, 1993 RRRG meeting, the winning entry was submitted by David Adams, N6VIJ. Started by Steve Noble, KC6YUH, Paul Girard, KC6TZU, volunteered to take over the project.

Jay Caldis, KT6Y, spoke on the repeaters autodial and autopatch functions.

Barry Winkler, KC6WYA, gave information concerning the packet class held at the fire college.

Seven people applied for RRRG membership. Introduced at 8:47 PM, the following people were voted on and approved for membership. Michael Lockwood, SWL, Sarah Colborn, KN6PZ, Brian James, KD6TPN, Laura Wallace, KE6ETX, and Pat Vonubin, KE6EJR. Unable to attend the meeting was Norman Gard, KD6QEF, and Bud Wasson, KE6EYG. Both were unanimously approved for club membership.

46 people attended the meeting, and we adjourned at 8:50 PM

Kent Barham, RRRG Secretary, KD6JAC @ KC6SLE-1 144.93

## **MINUTES OF THE MDARC MARCH 18, 1994 AUCTION MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Auction Chairman and auctioneer Dennis, KC6QHH, at 7:00 PM. Auctioneer Art, AB6HB explained the rules of the auction. Auctioneer Paul, KC6TZU asked for a moment of silence in memory of Lou Potter, W6VT who in past years had been a regular bidder at our auctions and who recently advanced to the grade of Silent Key.

The first item auctioned was Ticket Number 1 to PACIFICON. After spirited bidding it was won by Duane, N6SPX. About 233 items were auctioned and as will be reported elsewhere, the auction was a huge success.

At 8:00 PM the auction was suspended for a brief business meeting. The April meeting was announced by VP John, KM6QX. The auction then continued until 10:00 PM at which time the customary door prizes were awarded. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee, WA5HQJ @ KC6SLE-1  
Secretary, MDARC



## **GEORGE ROUSH, WB6OFH, GIVES EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW!** **EXCITING PLANS FOR MDARC PICNIC REVEALED!**

George, WB6OFH has been the chairman of the MDARC summer picnics for many years. He was recently interviewed about his plans for this year's event.

T.O.M. : George, what do you have planned for this year that will make our picnic the best ever?

George: Well, we always try to make the picnic an outstanding event. This year it will be even better.

T.O.M. : Just what will be new and different?

George: For one thing, we plan to make it more of a traditional picnic. You know, lots of new games, balloons for the kids, face painting and a barbecue.

T.O.M. : Wow, it really sound like it will be better than ever. What is the face painting all about?

George: We will have the famous Bubbles the Clown and her assistants there to decorate the faces of kids of all ages. And that means all ages. I am looking forward to some decoration on this old bazoo!

T.O.M. : You also said a barbecue. What do you have planned?

George: I don't want to give it all away this soon, but we expect to have a large cooker and chicken and ribs as well as traditional hot dogs and hamburgers. The plans are still developing and as we get initial responses of interest we will firm up all this.

T.O.M. : George, it all sound great and I know that everyone will be waiting to learn about the games, hidden transmitter hunt and other activities you will have at the July 17, 1994 MDARC Picnic!

George: You bet, so watch the CARRIER for all the info and listen on the Thursday night 147.06 net for more info!!

T.O.M @ KC6SLE-1

# **THE BASE STATION**

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## **ANTENNA PARTY AND GOOD CONNECTIONS**

There are two activities that will go on concurrently on Sunday, April 17, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, at the parking lot of the Pleasant Hill Adult Center at 3100 Oak Park Blvd. Both of these activities are brought to you by Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS and Pete Perata, KC6SHE.

The first is an antenna measuring session. We will measure the resonant frequency and SWR of any antenna from 150 MHz and less. So bring you mobile antenna or what ever else you can transport to this session. There is no charge and anybody including non-MDARC members are welcome. We recently tested 10 meter mobile antennas and not one was properly tuned. Bring your own tools if you want to tune your antenna on the spot. The only requirement is that your antenna cable must terminate in an N, BNC or UHF connector (either sex, we don't discriminate).

The second activity will be held on the same day, in the same location and yes, we need volunteers to help. We will be assisting those who would like to covert the power connectors on their rigs and battery packs to the ARES-RACES recommended standard.

The connectors have been purchased by MDARC and only members will get the connectors installed for free. Membership will be based on the club roster. Non-members can have the connectors added for the cost of the materials. The idea is to have everyone on the same standard connector so that during an emergency we can all support on each other.

As previously mentioned, we'll need several technically inclined volunteers to help us pull this off. Call Ray, KD6BLS, at 933-3242. This event will be rescheduled if it should happen to rain on the scheduled date.

Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS

## **NEW PROTOCOL FOR MDARC ATV NET NIGHT**

Beginning March 31, 1994, there will be a new format for the every Thursday night ATV net. This is due largely to the massive interest and great growth we have experienced in ATV.

The new format will be: 1) General info including the net format, 2) any emergency and non-emergency traffic, 3) announcements including any items for sale on the ATV mini swap, 4) video checkins; great time to show any items you have for sale, 5) mini swap; up to ten items each net, 6) an open forum for signal reports, technical questions, etc., 7) close of net with a repeat of announcements, items for sale, etc.

The ATV net now runs an average of 45 minutes each week. This new format should add no more than 10 minutes. Remember, the ATV net starts each Thursday night immediately following the MDARC club net. The frequency is 146.060, 100 Hz tone, + offset. 73 and see you on the air!

Mike Burke, KB6RMT

## **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE**

by George Jones, KI6YK

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members:

ECKERLEY, C. Leonard (Len); KF6DU, Advanced  
2812 Courtland Dr., Concord, CA 94520  
(510)686-5132(h)

PATTERSON, Mike; SWL  
2270 English Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
(510)944-8786(h), (510)842-5019(w)

PLOSS, Robert E. (Bob); KD6YJS, Technician  
110 Starview Court, Oakland, CA 94618-2327  
(510)540-4793(h)

SHEARS, Leigh; KE6EGE, Technician  
1404 Pine St., Martinez, CA 94553  
(510)229-0251(h)

SHEARS, Lloye; KE6EGD, Technician  
1404 Pine St., Martinez, CA 94553  
(510)229-0251(h)

VON UBIN, Pat; KE6EJR, Technician  
3170 Westbourne Drive, Antioch, CA 94509

The following renewed members were not included in the 1994 membership Directory:

BRADSHAW, Mary; WI6Y, Extra  
21 Altamount Dr., Orinda, CA 94563  
(510)376-0762(h&w)

BURKE, Michael; KB6RMT, Technician  
3526 Halifax Way, Concord, CA 94520  
(510)682-7896(h), (510)638-4113(w)

OVERACKER, Steve; WA6HAM, Advanced  
130 Encinal Pl., Pittsburg, CA 94565  
(510)-439-1387(h)

Congratulations to Bud Wasson on his upgrade and new call: Technician, KE6EYG.

## **MDARC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES**

In case you missed it, the 1994 Membership Directory has been available since mid-February. It can be picked up free at any MDARC meeting except auctions. It can also be ordered by sending one dollar and a request to George Jones, KI6YK, 325 Glen Arms Dr., Danville, CA 94526. No phone or fax orders, please.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The second annual packet class, put on by BARRY WINKLER, KC6WYA, and his staff was held in March and was a sell out. Thanks BARRY for all the work.

Also in March was the semi-annual Auction under the chairmanship of DENNIS FULLER, KC6QHH, who shared the auction duties with ART MAYOFF, AB6HB, and PAUL GIRARD, KC6TZU. The sales were logged in by DICK BROWN, KT6X, and his obedient crew. We not only made a few dollars for the club but it was also a fun evening.

The ham classes under the direction of JEFF JONES, AB6MB, end on April 12 at which time there will be a VE examination for all license classes and open to all at Pleasant Hill Adult Center, 3100 Oak Park Blvd., Room 503, Pleasant Hill. The exams are the courtesy of Northern California Radio Examiners (formerly called The Solano VE Group) under the direction of GERALD NEWTON, AA6NO. This group has often conducted exams here in the past, including PACIFICON.

GEORGE ROUSH, WB6OFH, is off and running with plans for the picnic on July 17. See the interview of George elsewhere in this Carrier.

NETS are a bit of togetherness. Don't forget to check in to the MDARC net every Thursday at 7:30 PM, often referred to as "Jay's net".

Dick Schulze, AA6DL.

Phone Hours: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Store Walk-In Hours:  
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100W HF Gen Cov Transceiver  
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## **PT. REYES RADIO STATIONS FEATURED AT APRIL MDARC MEETING & FIELD TRIP**

The April 15 MDARC meeting speaker will be Tracy Reese, WB6TMY, from Radio Station KPH on Point Reyes. Tracy will describe the 10,000 watt transmitters, antenna farms, and high-speed CW operations serving ships in the Pacific Ocean. Tracy is from Santa Rosa and for you CW fanatics, I think he is President of the local Morse Society(?).

A week later, on Saturday, April 23, we have organized a field trip to Point Reyes. Tours have been arranged for the KPH receiving site and operations center west of Pt. Reyes Station, the KPH transmitter site west of Bolinas, and the historic Marconi Station site north of Pt. Reyes Station. Another station, KMI, located next door to KPH, has been added to the tour by MDARC member Greg Sparacino, N6PUO, who works at that high powered phone station.

The April 23 tour will DEPART at 9:30 a.m. from Toby's Feed Store in Point Reyes Station. We'll have lunch back in Pt. Reyes Sta., then drive up to the Marconi Convention Center for a historic tour, and observe the Marconi Day Special Event Station. Allow an hour and a half for a beautiful spring drive from the Walnut Creek Area to Point Reyes Station. Check in with "MDARC Field Trip Control" on the 147.060 repeater when you leave, and 146.520 simplex when you arrive n Point Reyes Station.

If you'd like to join us on this unique adventure, call me, send a packet, or sign up at the April 15 meeting.

John Stuart, KM6QX @ AA6QR, MDARC VP

## **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS TO TALK TO SHUTTLE**

On April 9 at 7:30 AM several students from the Country Club School in San Ramon in San Ramon will ask six questions regarding science to the space shuttle Atlantis astronauts.

This endeavor has been made possible with the help of several local HAMS; science teacher Barry Isseks, KE6YD, school principle Carol Rowley, media interface Nick Ragusano, the Ham Radio Outlet, KLM, technical director Mike Burke, KB6RMT, video director Mary Stone, AB6VI, tracking and interface coordinator Jim Little, KC6SOE, tracking and interface backup Rob Syms, KD6KGZ, Advisor and equipment owner JC Smith, and video assistance Jim Davis, KB6OH (and you thought Hollywood had a lot of "grips").

So keep an I on the MDARC W6CX ATV repeater on Saturday, April 9 around 7:30 AM. For up to date status of this shuttle mission, check the VBBS. 73 and I'll be seeing you on the air.

Mike Burke, KB6RMT

**FROM THE MARCH 1994 REFUGEE RAG**

# **MT. DIABLO GETS NEW ANTENNAS**

After 18 months of operation high from the top of Mt. Diablo the WD9BIV 1200Mhz. REPEATER has been equipped with a new pair of antennas. With the financial help of WB6DHH and the labor of LOVE from N6PMF, KC6WYA, KC6WXX and KD6UPH the new antennas went up Saturday March 5, 1994. These antennas are made by Hustler and they are model HS10-12430 with 2 degrees of down tilt. The gain measures 11dBd. and seem to be working great. One of the first contacts was from Reno though the WA7RPS / N7LPT from Mt. Rose and the report was at

least a 5db improvement over the old antenna system. The next 2 contacts were from hand helds: WB6YWL was in his car, able to hear the repeater in San Jose, and then able to get into it from the 680 corridor. KC6SOE was in his house in Pittsburg. Jim was always noisy with the old antenna system. Please let me know how the new system is working at your QTH and in your commute areas.

*Thanks for all the help  
"73" Tim*

*This new antenna system is just the first of several improvements planned for the WD9BIV 1200Mhz. REPEATER and REMOTE BASE. Plans are under way for a new remote site with a better coverage area and there has been talk about putting the link on micro-wave. All of this is to provide the very best to you, the users of this repeater.*



**MDARC/RRRG QUAKE-NET INSTRUCTIONS**

Immediately after feeling an earthquake, listen to 147.060/+(100 pl).

When frequency is clear, quickly and clearly transmit in the following sequence::

LOCATION, OBSERVATION, NAME and CALL SIGN.

If a Hospital or ARES/RACES net control is established, relinquish use of repeater and break only with urgent traffic using your CALL SIGN and LOCATION or CITY

The Mount Diablo Amateur  
Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Meetings:

Third Friday Each Month  
8:00 PM / 2000 hours  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

1994 Club OfficersPresident:

Dick Schulze, AA6DL  
(510)935-5000

Vice President:

John Stuart, KM6QX  
(510)283-2797

Secretary:

Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ  
(510)682-1644

Treasurer:

Stan Christian, WU6P  
(510)672-0330

Membership Chairman:

George Jones, KI6YK  
(510)837-9316

Emergency Coordinator:

Bruce Smith, KC6JMN  
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Directors:

Tom Seabury, KC6SYG  
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South County - 146.355/+(100 pl)

George Jones, KI6YK  
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West County - 145.110/-

Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR  
(510)233-5034

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours  
Meeting of all County  
ARES/RACES Nets

The Rocky Ridge Repeater  
Group

P.O. Box 23222  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Next Meeting:

Third Wednesday Of Odd Months  
8:00 PM / 2000 hours  
Stonebrook Convalescent Center  
Concord Blvd., Concord, CA

Club OfficersChairman:

Dwane McGlothlin, N6SPX  
(510)798-2868

Technical Chairman:

Mike Burke, KB6RMT  
(510)682-7296

RRRG Repeaters

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RRRG Nets

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Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y  
ATV Net - Thursdays  
2000 Hours, Net Control:  
Mike Burke, KB6RMT,  
Alt.: Don Smith, W6NKF,  
Technical Net - Sundays  
1930 Hours, 147.060/+(100 pl)  
Net Control: Jeff Jones, AB6MB

Contra Costa County  
Emergency Services HF Net

First Thursday following  
first Wednesday,  
2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz  
Net Control:  
Hank Berriman, W6ZHY, AEC

Carrier

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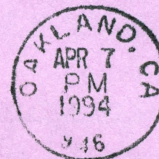
The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). This publication is open to all members of MDARC and it is the policy of this Editor to publish all articles submitted by the membership as long as such articles are not obscene, pertain to Amateur Radio, are of interest to the members of MDARC and space is available. Articles are due by the first of each month and are accepted on a first come, first in basis. Articles should be submitted by packet, KC6SLE @ WA6AEO.#NOCAL.USA.NA or packet mailbox, KC6SLE-1 or by modem to the Doug Smith's No Name Yet bulletin board, File area #23, at (510) 827-5714 or delivered to the Editor in ASCII format on either 5.25" or 3.5" computer disk. The standard font is Arial 9 point. The Editor's address can be found in the Carrier or MDARC Membership Directory. Articles published in the Carrier may be reproduced provided that such reproduction credits both MDARC and the author of the article. Copyrighted articles will not be accepted for publication in the Carrier.



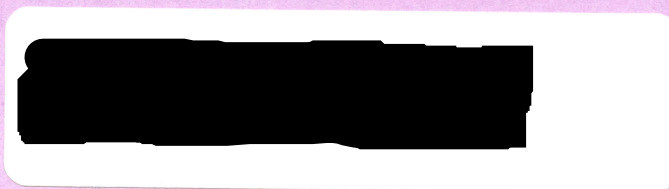
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College Livermore	First Sunday Each Month All Year, 7 AM to Noon
RACES Monthly Meeting	State OEC, Civic Dr. Pleasant Hill	First Wednesday Every Month, 7:30 PM
MDARC General Membership Meeting	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Ln., Lafayette	Friday April 15, 1994
Deadline for Carrier Articles	NA	Sunday May 1, 1994
MDARC T-Hunt	Location TBA	Canceled until further notice
RRRG Balloon Committee	Stonebrook Convalescent Center 4367 Concord Blvd., Concord	To be announced
Concord VEC Exams Gene, WW6H	Consolidated Fire Training Center 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord	Sunday, June 5, 1994
Fairfield HAM Exams Jerry, AA6NOP, (916) 662-0801	Fairfield Senior Center 1200 Civic Drive, Fairfield	Last Saturday of each month 0900 to noon
MDARC Picnic	Lafayette Reservoir	July 17, 1994
RRRG General Membership Meeting	Stonebrook Convalescent Center 4367 Concord Blvd., Concord	May 18, 1994, 8:00 PM

The Carrier  
a newsletter of the  
Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 23222  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



**NEXT MDARC MEETING IS April 15, 1994**  
**NEXT RRRG MEETING IS May 18, 1994**